

To: Governor Vilsack and Members of the Iowa Legislature

From: Mary Lawyer, Acting Director, IDED

Date: July 29, 2005

Subject: Update of commodities promotion program and plan

This memo is in regard to Iowa Code section 15.203(2), which requires annual updates of both a comprehensive five-year agricultural commodities and products promotion program, and a comprehensive agricultural commodities and products promotion plan. The Code states that the plan and program were to be developed by the Department of Economic Development and the Department of Agriculture and Land stewardship in 1990. The program was to be submitted to the governor and the general assembly, along with any accompanying recommendations of the council and the departments.

The main purpose of this requirement was to help insure that the international programs in the two departments did not duplicate services. However, in 1996 all international activities were moved to IDED and no programs, plans, or updates were subsequently prepared. We respectfully submit that no worthwhile purpose would be served by attempting to fulfill the Code requirements at this time.

## IOWA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT